

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2275

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3253

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, NATO

SUBJ: CEP: SENIOR CIVIL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (SCEPC)

PLENARY MEETING JUNE 25-27, 1975

SUMMARY: U.S. COMMENTS ON CERTAIN AGENDA ITEMS DISTRIBUTED VIA THE NATO-WIDE TO OTHER NATIONAL PLENARY REPS COULD FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS IN THE PLENARY. END SUMMARY.

1. USNATO CEP REP EXPRESSED CONCERN AT INFORMAL MEETING OF MOST SCEPC REPRESENTATIVES THAT PLENARY WOULD NOT ADDRESS PLANNING BOARD AND COMMITTEE (PB&C) "FLEXIBILITY" REPORTS IN DETAIL. HE FURTHER STATED THAT AWAITING REVIEW OF PB&C REPORTS UNTIL RE-INFORCED SESSION DENIED PLENARY REPRESENTATIVES THE OPPORTUNITY TO FOLLOW UP THIS INITIATIVE WHICH THEY INAUGURATED LAST YEAR. OTHER DELOFFS AGREED, BUT SUGGESTED PROMPT NOTICE IF ITEM TO BE RAISED SO THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO SPEAK ON THIS SUBJECT. USNATO SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING DRAFT MESSAGE BE SENT TO PLENARY CHAIRMEN, ASYG HUMPHREYS AND NATIONAL PLENARY REPRESENTATIVES IN CAPITALS VIA NATO-WIDE. THE MESSAGE COULD ORIGINATE FROM EITHER NATO HQS. OR THE PENTAGON TERMINAL.

BEGIN TEXT:

THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SCEPC PLENARY WISHES TO ADVISE THE CHAIRMEN AND HIS COLLEAGUES THAT:
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(A) I HAVE NOTED WITH INTEREST THE FEW SENTENCES CONCLUDING THE UNCLASSIFIED COMMUNIQUE ON MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE. QTE - THE FULLEST USE SHOULD BE MADE OF EXISTING CIVIL ASSETS IN SUPPORT OF MILITARY PLANS. DETAILED PLANNING IS ALSO NEEDED IN

THE CIVIL SECTOR TO PREPARE FOR A RAPID TRANSITION OF NATIONAL ECONOMIES TO AN EMERGENCY FOOTING. END QTE. IN THIS CONTEXT, I PROPOSE TO OUTLINE TO MY COLLEAGUES IN THE SCEPC, AS PART OF OUR DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM IV, HOW THE U.S. APPROACHES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ITEMS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 51 OF THE MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE DOCUMENT ITSELF. FURTHER, I WOULD HOPE THAT THERE MIGHT BE SOME OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS HOW THE PLENARY REPRESENTATIVES COULD EXPLORE THIS TOPIC IN DETAIL IN A MORE INFORMAL SETTING THAN A PLENARY MEETING. PERHAPS, THIS COULD BE DONE THROUGH THE MEANS OF A COLLOQUIUM OR SEMINAR WITHIN THE NEXT SIX MONTHS WHICH WE COULD ORGANIZE AT A LOCATION CONVENIENT TO THE PLENARY REPRESENTATIVES. THE U.S. CONSIDERS THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATIONAL APPROACH TO PLANNING AND THE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ABOUT NATIONAL PLANS FOR THE MOBILISATION OF CIVIL ASSETS TO FACE A CRISIS OR AN EMERGENCY IS AN ASPECT OF CEP PLANNING WHICH HAS NOT BEEN FULLY DISCUSSED. THE U.S. CONSIDERS THIS ESSENTIAL TO AN APPRECIATION OF THE WORTH OF PLANNING DONE AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL.

(B) FURTHER, CONCERNING AGENDA ITEM V, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A FULLER DISCUSSION OF THE PLANNING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES' REPORTS REFERENCED IN THE AGENDA THAN APPEARS INTENDED IN PARAGRAPH 4 (B) OF THE COVER NOTE TO AC 98-D/768. THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVE BELIEVES THAT SINCE THE SCEPC PLENARY STARTED THIS INITIATIVE ONE YEAR AGO, IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR THEM TO NOT ONLY COMMENT ON THE REPORTS, BUT ALSO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE WHICH MIGHT BE BENEFICIAL TO THE PLANNING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. THE U.S. NOTES THAT THE REPORTS INDICATE THERE HAS NOT BEEN UNIFORM PROGRESS OR THE EMERGENCE OF A PARTICULAR TREND AMONG ALL THE PLANNING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES REGARDING NCWA "FLEXIBILITY". IN MY VIEW, THIS IS TO BE EXPECTED. SINCE EACH NCWA MAY HAVE A PARTICULAR ROLE TO PLAY IN CRISIS OR WAR WHICH REQUIRES DIFFERENT EMPHASIS IN ONE FORM OR THE OTHER. WE HOPE THAT THIS WORK CAN BE COMPLETED SOON (END OF FEBRUARY 1976) AND THAT FINAL REPORTS WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE 1976 PLENARY. I HOPE MY COLLEAGUES WILL JOIN ME IN A DISCUSSION WHICH MIGHT ASSIST IN ACHIEVING THIS EXPECTATION.

(C) REGARDING AGENDA ITEM VII, I PROPOSE TO APPROACH A
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DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT, I.E., METHODS OF WORK AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SCEPC, FROM A PRAGMATIC VIEWPOINT. WHILE HOW THE WORK IS DONE IS MIMPORTANT, THE U.S. BELIEVES THE SUBJECT MATTER WHICH IS DEALT WITH REQUIRES DETAILED CONSIDERATION. THE SO-CALLED MECHANICAL ASPECTS OF PROCESSING DOCUMENTS AND METHOD OF WORK IS OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE. THE U.S. BELIEVES THT FAR TOO MUCH TIME OF THE SCEPC IS SPENT IN "RUBBER STAMPING" AND REVIEWING DOCUMENTS WHICH NATIONAL REPS HAVE ALREADY AGREED AT THE PLANNING BOARD AND COMMITTEE LEVEL. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT THE SENIOR COMMITTEE SHOULD NOT RECEIVE ANY DOCUMENT UNLESS THE PLANNING BOARD AND COMMITTEE REQUESTS FURTHER GUIDANCE INVOLVING POLICY QUESTIONS OF A POLITICAL OR FINANCIAL NATURE. WE HAVE ALREADY ADOPTED THE PRACTICE THAT PLANNING BOARD AND

COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS COULD BE APPROVED AT THE SCEPC LEVEL BY THE SILENCE PROCEDURE. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THIS PRACTICE WOULD BE EXTENDED TO ALL PLANNING BOARD AND COMMITTEE DOCUMENTS. IT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED THAT THE SILENCE PROCEDURE MIGHT BE EXTENDED TO THREE MONTHS WHICH WOULD GIVE CAPITALS AMPLE TIME FOR REVIEW BEFORE THE SILENCE TIME RAN OUT.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USNATO 3253

(D) UNDER ANY OTHER BUSINESS I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY REACTIONS TO THE DRAFT WORKING PAPER, AC/98-WP/108 (DISTRIBUTED JUNE 10), WHICH CONTAINS THE COVER NOTE FOR THE LEAD TIME STUDY ON AMMUNITION.

(E) THESE ARE ONLY A FEW IDEAS ABOUT OUR AGENDA, WHICH APPEARS TO ME TO BE AN EXCELLENT ONE, AFFORDING AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSION. I OFFER THE ABOVE COMMENTS AS SOME THOUGHTS WHICH WE MIGHT EXPLORE TOGETHER. END TEXT.

2. FYI - THE CEP DIRECTORATE PREPARED A DRAFT MESSAGE FOR THE ASYG TO SED TO PLENARY REPS COVERING POINT (A) ABOVE. MR. HUMPHREYS SUGGESTED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THIS POINT BROUGHT FORWARD BY A DELEGATION. HE BELIEVES HE HAS PRESSED THE COUNTRIES RATHER HARD ON THIS ISSUE IN THE DPC AND THAT ANOTHER PUSH BY HIM IN THE SCEPC MIGHT BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

3. THE CEP DIRECTORATE, ALSO IN REGARD TO ITEM IV, LAYS SOME STRESS ON THE SECOND CEP OBJECTIVE DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 8, AC/98-WP/104 (2ND REVISE). THE CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION PAPER (IMSWM-132-75) THE U.S. HAS BEEN PUSHING IN THE MILITARY COMMITTEE IS NOW OUT TO MILITARY REPS FOR COMMENT BY JUNE 20. THIS WHOLE INITIATIVE IS BEGINNING TO BE UNDERSTOOD BY NATIONS.

4. COMMENT. A FEW CEP REPS ARE BEGINNING TO REPEAT, AS THEIR OWN, THINGS WHICH USNATO HAS BEEN SAYING FOR YEARS. IDEAS ARE BEGINNING TO FIND THEIR TIME. PATIENT EXPLANATION
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AND NOT TOO SOPHISTICATED APPROACH OR METHODOLOGIES WILL ASSIST OUR ALLIES IN SOON SEEING THE WHOLE "PIZZA PIE" OF CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION. THEY ARE NOW MUNCHING AND DIGESTING FOUR SLICES: BENELUX LOC, SUPPORT OF AIRLIFTED REINFORCEMENTS, SEALIFT AND PRODUCTION LEAD-TIME FOR AMMUNITION. HOWEVER, AGENDA ITEM IV PROVIDES A CHANCE TO GIVE OUR CEP COLLEAGUES AN EXPLANATION OF THE WHOLE PIE (PARAGRAPH 51 - MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE). END COMMENT.

5. ADVISE IF YOU WISH NATO-WIDE TO BE SENT FROM THIS END.BRUCE

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